

For the Children.

My Crystal Cup.

I had a little crystal cup
As clear as e'er was seen;
'Twas fit to serve cold water bright
Unto the fairest Queen.
And well I loved my little cup,
And filled it oft with flowers:
Sweet as their fragrance lingers yet
The memory of those hours.
But, ah! my little crystal cup!
Like other tales we tell;
While sipping from its dainty prim
Unto my feet it fell.

And there its sparkling fragments lay
All shapeless though so bright;
I took them up with tearful eyes
And put them from my sight.

And such alas, full oft has been
The end of dearest joys;
And sadder tears I've often shed
Than those o'er broken toys.
—Mrs. M. SANDERSON.

Who Sent the Presents?

Sophie and Mary did not have a cozy and neat and pleasant home, as you have, for their father often came in drunk, and their mother was too sick to care for her house and look after the children. The two small rooms were rarely clean, and there was not a whole piece of furniture in them. Several of the window panes were stuffed with rags to keep out the cold December air. Christmas was coming! but what would it bring to them? They had heard of "Santa Claus," and the nice presents he was supposed to put in the children's stockings, hang on the Christmas trees and leave in other mysterious ways for his friends, but they hardly dared hope he would find the way to their humble home. But somebody, if not Santa Claus, was planning to give them a "Merry Christmas."

The afternoon of December twenty-fourth, a knock came at their door, and to the response, "Come in," the pleasant face of the lady missionary, carrying in her hand a closely tied parcel, containing toys, books, dolls, etc., for the little girls. They were left the mother, with instructions to give them to the children Christmas morning. Accordingly, that night, after the little girls were sleeping soundly, the picture books, toy watch, and the dollies in their little cribs, were laid out on the old lounge beneath the windows. At the first peep of daylight the children awoke. Their mother asked them to rise and open the shutters; and as the light of the Christmas morning streamed in they espied the presents.

"Oh," said Mary, "Santa Claus has been here in the night!"

"No," replied Sophie the elder, "it was God sent us these things, for, don't you know God sends every good thing?"

Then Mary said they should thank Him for them, and so, before they had even examined the dollies, or looked at the pictures, or listened to see if the watch ticked, they kneeled right down there in

the cold room and offered up their prayer of thanksgiving to the dear Lord who had so kindly remembered them.

But I think I hear some little boy who has been listening to this story, say, "Oh no; the Lord didn't send them. It was the missionary lady."

Yes, it was the missionary lady who brought them, but where did she get them? Let me tell you:

Some little girls in M—— heard about the poor children in the city, and God put it into their hearts to try and do something for them. So, all through the bright December afternoons they met together dressed dolls, made scrap-books and wall banners out of pretty cards pasted on bright paper muslin. Then when the barrels were ready to pack, they brought their toys, picture books, tea sets, and lots of other things; and their mammas gave them tea, sugar, coffee, apples, oranges, etc., to help make a Christmas dinner for those who were too poor to buy it for themselves. Then the barrels were marked with the missionary's name and sent to the great city. And that was the way she got the presents that Sophie and Mary found on the old lounge Christmas morning.

Sophie had learned in the Sabbath school that "Every good gift, and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of Lights," and she knew at once that God had sent them.—THE LITTLE CHRISTIAN.

How Old Must I Be?

"Mother," a little child once said, "Mother how old must I be before I can be a Christian?"

And the wise mother answered, "How old will you have to be, darling, before you can love me?"

"Why, mother, I always loved you. I do now, and I always shall," and she kissed her mother, "but you have not told me yet how old I shall have to be."

The mother made no answer with another question: "How old must you be before you can trust yourself wholly to me and my cares?"

"I always did," she answered, and kissed her mother again; "but tell me what I want to know," and she climbed into her mother's lap and put her arms about her neck.

The mother asked her again; "How old will you have to be before you can do what I want you to do?"

Then the child whispered, half guessing what the mother meant: "I can now without growing any older."

Then the mother said: "You can be a Christian now, my darling, without waiting to be older. All you have to

do is to love and trust and try to please the One who says, 'Let the little ones come unto me.' Don't you want to begin now?"

The child whispered, "Yes." Then they both knelt down and the mother prayed, and in her prayer she gave to Christ her little one who wanted to be His.—St. Louis Presbyterian.

Letting it Rest.

A little fellow was one day riding in the carriage with his papa and mamma. As they rode along they noticed that he was very quiet indeed. They wondered at it a little, and finally asked, "What is the matter, have you lost your tongue?" "No," said the little boy, "I am letting it rest."

There are many tongues which would not be at all harmed by having a rest. Suppose some of our little friends try the experiment, and instead of talking and chatting continually, use their brains and rest their tongues. A wise man can say much in very few words, but a "fool's" voice is known by the multitude of his words.—SEL.

Our Letter-Box.

DEAR EDITOR: I thought I would write some for the children's page of the EVANGELIST, it being my first attempt. I do not know whether it will be worthy of room in its columns or not. However, I will write, and if you think it worthless drop it in the waste basket. I go to the Union school here, we passed examination last week and my average grade was 89. I like to go to school. Harvey Mikesel asked a question in No. 11 of the EVANGELIST. "Where is the word Lawyer mentioned in the New Testament and who was it applied to." I say that it is found in the eleventh chapter of St. Luke, 45, 46, and 52 verses; and I think it was applied to the Scribes spoken of in the 44th verse. I will ask a Bible question: Where are the longest and shortest verses in the Bible found and what are they.

HARVEY OBERHOLTZER.

Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

DEAR EDITOR: I have often read letters from the children in your paper and I thought I would write one. I am nine years old. I am going to school; my studies are Reading, Spelling, Writing and Arithmetic. I also attend Sabbath school; my papa, J. P. Wolfe, is the superintendent, and Miss Lizzie Kilhefner is my teacher. We have preaching every Sunday night; brother Beer is our pastor. Our climate is quite different from yours. We have no snow here. I never saw such a thing as a sled or sleigh. The most of our wild flowers are past. I don't understand what Dew Drop Club is for, I would like to know. MARY E. WOLFE.

Lathrop, Cal.

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Akron.....	3 11	11 50pm	11 43	7 15
Kent.....	3 55	12 45	12 10am	8 00
Ravenna.....	3 45		12 22	8 15
Arrive				
Leavittsburg	4 20		1 00am	9 00
Cleveland.....	6 30			
Youngstown.....	5 00		2 00	9 55
Pittsburg.....	7 50		3 55	12 45pm
Warren Dp.....	4 32		1 12	9 15am
Greenville.....	5 37		2 30	10 27
Arrive				
Meadville.....	6 30		3 25	11 25
Leave				
Meadville.....	6 45		3 35	
Union City.....	7 28		4 37	12 50pm
Corry.....	7 58		5 00	1 15
Jamestown.....	8 47		5 57	2 12
Arrive				
Salmon.....	9 45		7 10	3 15
Buffalo.....			10 00am	5 45
Niagara Falls.....			11 50	8 15
Rochester.....			12 05pm	8 20
Elmira.....	1 47am		12 40	8 05
Binghamton.....	3 30am		2 15	10 05
Albany.....	1 20pm			6 00am
Boston.....	10 25am			2 00pm
New York.....			9 20pm	6 10am

Train No. 38 leaves Ashland 10:30 a.m. Akron 5:25 p.m., Kent 6:35 p.m.

TRAINS WESTWARD.

STATIONS.	No 1	No 3	No 5	No 11
Leave				
Ashland.....	7 56am	8 15pm	2 00pm	6 03pm
Mansfield.....	8 35	9 00	2 30	7 10
Arrive				
Chicago.....			7 50am	
Leave				
Gallion.....	9 17	9 50pm	3 05	8 1
Marion.....	9 58	10 30	3 40	
Arrive				
Chicago.....	8 05pm	8 20am		
Leave				
Urbana.....	11 59	1 00am	5 05	
Springfield.....	12 28	1 59	5 29	
Arrive				
Dayton.....	1 15	3 10	6 10	
Cincinnati.....	3 40	5 30	8 15	
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